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SUBJECT Political Information: Seamen's Union, Hongkong

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SUPPLEMENT

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1. The Hongkong Yaumati and Star Ferry Workers and almost all seamen employed on the Hongkong waterfront are members of the Hongkong Seamen's Union. The Union director is CHUNG Shao-pang (鍾少朋), a well-known middle-aged scholar who speaks fluent English and is an opium addict. He seldom ventures out alone except when a personal appearance is necessary.
2. His entertaining or business manager is HUANG Shao-chuan (黃少泉) who was the desk and employment manager of Oi Kwan Hotel during the Japanese occupation of Canton. HUANG is well educated and also speaks fluent English. He is known to associate with a Communist named YUAN Hai-tian (阮海天), who was reported to be Communist political advisor in Macao last March, although his actual connections at present with the Communists are not known.
3. CHUNG, HUAN, and LO Tien-i (駱天一), who is one of General TSAI Ting-kai's more capable officers, whose business is to intimidate merchants and business men, are often seen together and separately at 135 Connaught Road at the China Seamen's Club or at Headquarters for Relief to Unemployed Seamen and Strikers.
4. During the recent ferry strike, the Seamen's Union paid each man enough for food and lodging, based on the size of his family. Note: 25X1A
23 July 1946 approximately 500 Chinese workers of the Hongkong and Yaumati Ferry Company and the Star Ferry Company went on strike. Motor boats which substituted for ferries paid the Union fifty Hongkong dollars daily; sampans paid according to their size and carrying capacity. It is reported that payments were never questioned and were made without hesitation. During the strike the upkeep of over three hundred men and their families plus the running expenses of the Union were estimated at several thousand Hongkong dollars daily, but the Union's financial condition is good. Both the Canton and Shanghai Seamen's Club have representatives in Hongkong. They were reported to have given the ferry strikers financial support.

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